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TELEVISION

Ptv **First Transmission:** 2.30 Bismillah "Tilawat-e-Qura'an-e-Hakeem Wa Tarjuma", 2.40 Al-Qura'an, 2.50 Sesame Street, 3.45 News In Urdu, 3.50 Qura'an Aur Sahib-e-Qura'an, 4.00 Roshan Tara, 4.20 Sohni Dharti Sona Sang, 4.35 Manak Moti (Sindhi Programme), 4.45 News In Sindhi, 4.55 Fehmul Qura'an, 5.15 Soorat-ul-Qura'an (Special programme), 5.30 Nazr-e-Hazoor (SAW), 5.35 Istaqbal-e-Ramazan, 6.00 Tameer-e-Shakhsiyat Aur Ramazan, 6.15 News in English, 6.30 Roz-o-Shab, 6.45 Al-Islam, 6.50 Dhoop Kinaray (Play Serial), 7.40 Neend (Play Serial), 8.00 News Headlines, 8.02 Neend (Remaining Play), 9.00 Khabarnama, 9.25 Commercial Bulletin, 9.30 Naat-e-Rasool-e-Maqbool (SAW), 9.35 Moin Akhtar Show, 10.30 Sports Round Up-1998, 11.05 SAARC exchange programme: Bhutan, 11.30 News Headlines, 11.32 Al-Akhbar, 11.40 National Assembly Ka Ijlas, 12.40 Tomorrow's Programmes, 12.42 Farman-e-Elahi, 12.50 Close Down.

Sehri Transmission: 4.45 Baseerat (Tilawat Aur Tarjuma), Hamd-o-Naat, Taqwa, Qawwali, Nazool-e-Qura'an, Azan-e-Fajr, Dua, Al-Qura'an-i-Hakeem (Tilawat Aur Tarjuma), 7.00 Close Down.

PTV World

7.00 Today's Highlights, 7.02 Lahore Kay Darwazay, 7.15 Tiffin Carrier, 7.40 Kasuti, 8.00 Khas Khas Khabrain, 8.03 Remaining portion of Kasuti, 8.25 Sports roundup-98, 9.00 Khabarnama, 9.25 Tijarti Khabrain + Kashmir File, 9.40 Religious Programme/Qawali, 10.10 Taravih (Live from Saudi Arabia), 12.00 Neend (Urdu Drama), 12.50 Tomorrow's Highlights, 12.52 Farman Elahi, 12.57 Close Down.

CARTOON NETWORK 2.00 Andaz, 2.30 Chat Patay, 3.00 Pas-e-Aaina, 4.00 Cartoon Network, 4.30 Cartoon Network, Before Azan-e-Magrib: Ramzan Prime Time, NF Iftar Cooking Festival, Azan-e-Magrib, Hamd-o-Naat, Mah-e-Syaam, Cartoon Network, 7.10 Baat Chal Nikli Hai, 7.45 Pas-e-Aina, 9.00 News, Naat, 9.50 LG Guest House, 10.30 Classic Corner (EFF).

SPORTS 9.00 Adventure, 9.30 Wills Sports Golf Tour Show, 10.00 Boxing, 12.00 Sports News, 13.00 Karate Thai Kick Boxing, 14.00 Football, 16.00 Sports News, 16.30 Asian Football Show, 17.30 Wrestling, 18.30 Basketball, 19.00 Spanish Football League, 21.00 Spanish League H/L, 21.30 Inside Cricket, 22.00 Sports India, 22.30 Racquet Sports, 23.30 Wrestling, 00.30 Asian Football Show, 1.30 Inside Cricket, 2.00 Cricket India Vs New Zealand 3rd Test Live, 4.30 Cricket Magazine Show, 5.00 India Tour Of New Zealand Live.

STAR PLUS 8.30 Murder She Wrote, 9.30 Santa Barbara, 10.30 The Bold & The Beautiful, 11.00 Awaaz, 11.30 Hum Tum Gaate Chale, 12.00 Tanha, 13.00 Apradhi Kaun, 13.30 Imtihan, 14.00 Swabhiman, 14.30 Movie, 17.30 Small Wonder, 18.00 So Lets Yahoo, 18.30 Star News (Hindi), 19.00 Meri Pasand, 19.30 Maal Hai To Taal Hai, 20.00 Ajeeb Dastan, 20.30 Star News, 21.00 Family Fortune, 21.30 Amul India Show, 22.00 Aaj Ki Baat, 22.30 Saboot, 23.30 The Bold & The Beautiful, 00.00 Newhart, 00.30 Baywatch Nights, 1.30 Christy, 2.30 L.A.Law, 3.30 Santa Barbara, 4.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show, 5.30 Ninaad, 6.30 Good Morning.

STAR MOVIES 8.30 Trial By Jury, 10.30 Canadian Bacon, 12.30 Damion Omen, 14.30 Blaze, 16.30 Vital Signs, 18.30 Light Sleeper, 20.30 UK Top 10, 21.00 Independence Day, 23.45 Magnificent Butcher, 2.00 Jane Seymour, 3.00 Vital Signs, 3.00 In The Madness, 5.30 Canadian Bacon.

STAR TELEVISION 8.00 Disney Hour, 9.00 Ek Nazar, 9.30 Sa Re Ga Ma Classic, 10.30 Gudgudee, 11.00 Daraar, 11.30 Khana Khazana, 12.00 Naye Nazrane, 12.30 Shanti, 13.00 Hum Paanch, 13.30 Public Demand, 14.00 Bournvita Quiz Contest, 14.30 Super 7 Muqabla, 15.30 Suniye Zee Sunaiye Zee, 16.00 Rishtey, 17.00 Fitness Plus, 17.30 Ek Nazar, 18.00 Disney Hour, 19.00 Fun Filmi Style, 19.30 Close Up Antakshari, 20.00 Colgate Top 10, 21.00 Ashirwaad, 21.30 Jaan, 22.00 Knock Knock Kaun Hai, 22.30 News, 23.00 Hadd Kar Di, 23.30 Banegi Apni Baat, 00.00 Hasratein, 00.30 Do Aur Do Paanch, 1.00 Yeh Hai Zindagi, 1.30 Geet Gaata Chal, 2.00 Hindi Feature Film, 4.30 Ek Nazar, 5.00 Yadon Ke Pal, 5.30 News, 5.50 Guldasta, 6.00 Bhakti Songs, 6.30 Jagran.

STAR PLUS 7.00 Rushiprasad, 7.30 Yaadon Ki Baraat, 8.00 Hum Log, 9.00 Star Yaar Kalakaar, 10.00 Just Mohabbat, 10.30 Pop Pouri, 11.00 Bhanwar, 11.30 Yeh Shaadi Nahi Ho Sakti, 12.00 Chamatkar, 12.30 Cine Clips, 13.00 Boogie Woogie, 13.30 World of Cricket, 14.00 Hum Log, 14.30 Ek Mahal Ho Sapno Ka, 15.00 HFF, 18.30 Battle Of Bollywood, 19.00 Cine Clips, 19.30 Toofan Mail, 20.00 Thriller Story, 21.00 Harmony, 21.30 Movers & Shakers, 22.00 Ek Mahal Ho Sapno Ka, 22.30 Cine Clips, 23.00 Dekh Bhai Dekh, 23.30 Boogie Woogie, 00.00 Hum Sab Ek Hain, 00.30 CID, 1.00 Movers & Shakers, 1.30 Hum Log, 2.00 HFF, 5.00 Rang Birangi, 5.30 Yeh Shaadi Nahi Ho Sakti, 6.00 Atma.

BBC WORLD 9.00 World News, 9.30 World Focus, 10.00 World News, 10.30 Top Gear, 11.00 World News, 11.30 Hard Talk, 12.00 World News, 12.30 World Living, 13.00 World News, 13.30 World Focus:, 14.00 World News, 14.30 Hardtalk, 15.00 World News, 15.30 One Foot On Continent, 16.00 The World Today, 17.30 Wild World, 18.00 BBC World News, 18.15 Business Report, 18.30 The World Today, 19.30 World Living: Earth Report, 20.00 BBC World News, 20.30 Hardtalk, 21.00 BBC World News, 21.30 Question Time India, 22.30 World Today, 23.00 The World Today, 00.30 Correspondent, 1.00 BBC World News, 1.10 Business Report, 1.30 World Living, 2.00 World News, 2.10 Europe Direct, 2.30 World Living: Future Fantastic, 3.00 BBC World News, 3.30 Business Report, 4.00 World News, 4.30 World Focus, 5.30 World Living.

TNT MOVIES 20,30 Girl Happy, 22.10 Harum Scarum, 22.40 Spinout, 1.20 Live A Little Love A Little.

TNT CARTOON NETWORK 7.00 Scooby & Scrappy Doo, 7.30 Tom & Jerry Kids, 8.00 Josie & The Pussycats, 8.30 Dink, The Little Dinosaur, 9.00 Flintstone Kids, 9.30 Richie Rich, 10.00 Top Cat, 10.30 The Addams Family, 11.00 Scooby Doo, 11.30 The Cartoon Grand Prix, 12.30 Fantastic Max, 13.00 Jetsons, 13.30 The New Scooby Doo Movies, 14.30 Sky Commanders, 15.00 Centurions, 15.30 Swat Kats, 16.00 Ninja Robots, 16.30 Dexter's Laboratory, 17.00 Tom & Jerry Kids, 17.30 The Real Adventures Of Jonny Quest, 18.00 The Mask, 18.30 Captain Planet, 19.00 Flintstones, 19.30 Scooby Doo Where Are You?, 20.00 The Popeye Show.

channel V 8.00 Rewind, 9.00 Turn On T[V], 10.30 Pepsi Chinese Top 20, 12.30 Turn On T[V], 13.00 V Spot, 13.30 Turn On T[V], 14.00 Rewind, 15.00 Turn On T[V], 16.00 Mainstage, 17.00 Turn On T[V], 17.30 Korean Top 20, 19.00 VHS, 20.00 Rewind, 21.00 Channel V News, 22.00 Turn On T[V], 22.30 BPL Oye, 23.30 Top 100 Videos Of 98, 00.30 Turn On T[V], 1.00 Freestyle, 1.30 Turn On T[V], 2.00 Rewind, 3.00 Hebat, 4.00 A-Z Of Rock, 4.30 Best Of Billboard, 6.30 Turn On T[V].

CNN 9.00 World News, 9.15 American Edition, 9.30 World Report, 10.00 World News, 10.30 Best Of Insight, 11.00 World News, 11.30 Moneyweek, 12.00 World News, 12.30 World Sports, 13.00 World News, 13.30 Showbiz This Weekend, 14.00 World News, 14.30 Best Of Insight, 15.00 Insight, 15.30 Artclub, 16.00 World News, 16.30 American Edition, 16.45 As They See It, 17.00 Asia Tonight, 17.30 World Sports, 18.00 World News, 18.30 Biz Asia, 19.00 Larry King, 20.00 World News, 20.30 World Sports, 21.30 Biz Asia, 22.00 World News, 22.30 Pinnacle, 23.00 World News, 23.45 American Edition, 00.00 World News, 00.30 World Business Today, 1.00 World News, 1.30 Q & A, 2.00 World News Europe, 2.30 CNN Newsroom, 3.00 World News, 3.30 World Sport, 4.00 World View, 4.30 Inside Asia, 5.00 World News, 5.30 The Artclub, 6.00 The World Today, 6.30 World Beat.

34 holdups committed

Triple-murder mystery solved

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI, Dec 31: At least 34 holdups, including of 25 vehicles, were committed in the city on Thursday. The vehicles were either snatched or stolen.

Ten of them are cars and 15 motorcycles. The police, despite their claim that they have controlled carjacking, they continue to flourish in their trade by driving away the stolen vehicles to upcountry where they sell the vehicles for a song. It has become a thriving industry for criminals.

ROBBERIES: At least nine holdups were committed in the city on Thursday.

Five men broke into a textile mill in Quaidabad and made off with Rs99,000.

Nand Lal was looted of Rs30,000 by four young gunmen in the airport area.

Dr Saghir lodged a report with the Gizri police that four gunmen barged into his house and robbed him of cash, American passport, two air tickets and two bags.

Nisar Ahmed was deprived of Rs3,300 and other valuables in Defence Housing Authority.

A shopkeeper, Mohammad Laeeq, was looted of 34 wristwatches by bandits in Clifton.

Mohammed Mustafa was robbed of Rs54,600 by three bandits in PECHS.

Mohammed Arshad was deprived of cash and mobile telephone by two bandits in Gulshan-i-Iqbal.

Gunmen robbed Khaleel Rehman of Rs196,360 at gunpoint in Gulberg.

Bandits barged into Muzzafar's house in Nazimabad and looted him of jewellery, a TV and a VCP.

TRIPLE-MURDER: The police claimed to have solved the mystery of the murder of three members of a family in Malir on Wednesday. Nawab, his wife and young son were found slaughtered in their house while Asma, the couple's daughter, had gone, apparently, to college. After the police grilled Asma, she reportedly said she had wanted to marry a boy, Farhan. Her parents and the brother opposed it. On Wednesday, Farhan, according to the girl's statement, with his two other accomplices, slaughtered the girl's father, mother and brother. Asma has been arrested and the search for her lover and his two other accomplices has been mounted.

DIES: A young domestic servant died after the gun of a security guard went off accidentally in PECHS.

Preliminary reports said Nisar, a guard of a private security agency, was on duty when his gun went off accidentally and a bullet hit the domestic servant, Hasan, 22, in the chest. He was taken to the hospital where he died afterwards.

The police said the investigation was under way to determine the exact cause of death.

WOUNDED: A man was shot and wounded by two suspects after they snatched his motorcycle in Mehmoodabad.

Mohammed Hasan had gone to purchase milk from a milkshop. Two suspects were standing there. As Hasan turned after taking milk, the accused snatched his motorcycle. When he resisted, they opened fire at him and drove away his motorcycle. They abandoned the vehicle after a little distance. Hasan was wounded and taken to the hospital.

Two brothers were wounded in shooting in Kalakot.

They were identified as Noor Mohammed and Sher Mohammed. The police said the shooting took place during a quarrel over children.

The wounded were taken to Civil Hospital where their condition were, reportedly, stable.

ARRESTED: Five people were arrested on a charge of snatching a truck in Mochko.

The truck was recovered after the police raided the vehicle-snatchers den. They were identified as Mohammad Saleem, Mohammad Iqbal, Ghulam Abbas, Mohammed Rasheed and Mushtaq.

PPP to seek removal of govt in 1999

By Our Reporter

KARACHI, Dec 31: Pakistan People's Party has declared that 1999 would be the year of struggle and triumph against oppressive and dictatorial rule and called upon the people to prepare themselves for getting rid of the present rulers.

Addressing a news conference, Nisar Khuhro, President, PPP Sindh, declared that in its meeting the party took certain decisions to galvanise people to oust the Muslim League government after Eidul Fitr.

He said that Ms Benazir Bhutto's return from foreign tour after Eid would be a turning point in the struggle against the rulers.

Mr Khuhro said the outgoing year was the year of deprivation, weakening of national institutions, setting up parallel judiciary, attacks on press, rabid victimisation of political opponents in the name of accountability based on fake and forged allegations.

Asked if the PPP would go it alone or other parties would also join her in the campaign against the government, Nisar Khuhro was evasive but he said all those who leave democracy and freedom would be with his party in the struggle.

He praised those forces who opposed Kalabagh dam and made the assemblies ineffective.

He was not categorical whether the multi-party Pakistan Awami Ittehad (PAI) and other religious groups would also be involved in the campaign.

In the various resolutions adopted in the meeting the Sindh PPP expressed concern over the prolongation of Governor's rule in the province while assembly remained dormant and supra-constitutional military courts were operating without any question.

The Sindh PPP also condemned the government's decision to offload Ms Bhutto from the Dubai-bound flight and inclusion of her name in the ECL.

It also expressed concern over the law and order situation in the province, continuing incidents of car snatching, dacoities, and violence. The government, it said, was incompetent and corrupt and must go.

The meeting also condemned demolition of houses in Liaquatabad on Dec 29 under the pretext of nabbing the terrorists.

The PPP also expressed concern over precarious condition of the haris and decline in the income of the agriculturists due to wrong policies of the government.

Moin asks LEAs to open no-go areas

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI, Dec 31: Governor Moinuddin Haider has ordered the law-enforcement agencies to ensure writ of the law and open all "no-go areas" to people.

He urged the LEAs to ensure that no one is allowed to collect fitra and zakat under coercion on the eve of Eid.

When police chief informed the governor about the arrest of some police personnel involved in committing accesses on innocent people, Gen Haider asked him to send their cases for a military trial.

Terming such corrupt elements as black sheep in the force police, he said: "they are not only undoing your good work of unearthing narcotic and terrorists gangs and nabbing hardened criminals, but also bringing a bad name to the entire force".

He issued these instructions while reviewing the law and order situation at the Governor's House on Thursday. Those present at the meeting included Chief Secretary Salik Nazeer, Home Secretary Wajid Rana, IG Police Rana Maqbool, CPLC chief Jameel Yusuf, Director-General Rangers Brig Abdul Qadir Baloch and divisional commissioner Shafiq Paracha.

The LEA officials gave a resume of the situation viz-a-viz unearthing of criminal gangs and arrest of hardened criminals wanted in dozens of heinous crimes, including high profile murders.

The governor also asked them to track down the killers of the brother and nephew of Altaf Hussain, MQM chief.

About complaints of harassment to overseas Pakistanis, he directed the police officials to increase mobility on Sharea Faisal and Rashid Minhas Road to check such incidents. He asked them to report all such cases and actions taken against them.

CARJACKINGS: The governor was informed that seven gangs of carjackers had been unearthed so far and efforts were being made to break their inter-provincial chain.

They said incidents of carjackings which had come down considerably, have started increasing.

Stressing the need for reactivating anti-car lifting cell, the governor asked the people to be cautious and take preventive measures.

"There is a need to maintain a record of all those weapons recovered from terrorists and their dens and armoury record be computerised," the governor said.

Likewise, he said, all information about criminals be made public so that they could not be portrayed as oppressed. This only could be possible if law-abiding people are not harassed," he added.

Khalid being implicated in Memon case: MQM

By Our Reporter

KARACHI, Dec 31: Deputy convener of the Muttahida Qaumi Movement's coordination committee Senator Aftab Shaikh said on Thursday that the government was preparing seven more cases for military courts, including that of Ismail Memon's case in which former Sindh minister Qazi Khalid had been implicated.

Speaking at a news conference at the Karachi Press Club, he alleged that the current operation was aimed physically and politically eliminating the MQM leadership and activists from the scene.

Senator Shaikh said Shoaib Bokhari and Wakil Jamali were front-liners but through a conspiracy they have been removed from the scene and were being subjected to various kinds of torture.

"Now they are focusing on Qazi Khalid and his name has been deliberately included in the statement given by Ayub Haider," he said.

He categorically denied that Qazi Khalid had any role in the murder of Ismail Memon, chairman, Board of Secondary Education, Karachi.

He said the allegations levelled by Ayub Haider in his statement under 164 nominating Zulfiqar Haider and Wasey Jalil were baseless, misleading and concocted.

Senator Shaikh said so far there had been no chemical analysis of the body of Ismail Memon, and if it was done later, it would not be acceptable.

He alleged it was part of the government's media trial of the Muttahida Qaumi Movement.

Police claim arrest of key suspect

KARACHI, Dec 31: Police have arrested an important activist of the Muttahida Qaumi Movement with his three other accomplices involved in running the MQM network in South Africa and also sending terrorists to India for training.

The suspect was identified as Nadeem alias Civic and his accomplices were identified as Babar Anis alias Babbar, Mirza Wasi Baig and Irfan Ahmed alias Imran.

DIG of Karachi Farooq Amin Qureshi told a press conference on Thursday that a large quantity of arms had also been seized from the suspects who made startling disclosures which gives an indication of anti-state intentions of the terrorists.

The DIG said the disclosures showed their sole aim was to weaken Pakistan.

According to him, the first disclosure by them was that a plan was hatched in 1996 to kill then prime minister Benazir Bhutto on the occasion of her visit to South Africa whereas the second disclosure was that a conspiracy was hatched to incite sectarian violence in Karachi.

According to the DIG, Nadeem alias Civic had stated that he reached South Africa in 1996 and added that the same year they were told about the directives received from Altaf Hussain and Nadeem Nusrat about the arrival of Benazir Bhutto in South Africa. They were told that Benazir Bhutto had got a large number of MQM workers killed in Karachi and therefore she be assassinated when she arrived in Johannesburg.

But since Ms Bhutto did not go to Johannesburg, this plan failed.

Babar Anis alias Babbar told the police that the Muttahida had planned a sectarian clashes between Ismaili and Sunni sects. Since the Ismaili community is brings investment from abroad, it brings stability to the national economy.

He said they killed Maulvi Akbar but the Muttahida's conspiracy for sectarian violence did not succeed.

According to the DIG, Nadeem said that even in South Africa the MQM had established a network of expatriates with Qamar Ghalib and Hammad Jilani responsible of extorting money from the business community especially the Memons settled there.

He said a local Muslim lady, Farida, used to prepare documents for sending MQM activists from South Africa to India. According to Nadeem, there were some 250 MQM workers in South Africa involved in heinous crimes in Karachi.

Police seized three KKs, including a snatched official KK, seven 7 MM rifles, 7 pistols of .30 bore, 2 revolvers, a mouser and about 400 rounds. — APP

Muttahida, PPP flay hanging

By Our Reporter

KARACHI, Dec 31: Pakistan People's Party and Muttahida Qaumi Movement on Thursday flayed the execution on the orders of the military court and said since the petition challenging these courts was pending in the Supreme Court, the verdict should not have been implemented till the disposal of the plea.

Leader of the opposition in Sindh Assembly Nisar Khuhro, when asked to comment on the execution at a news briefing, said the event was shocking.

He said the Supreme Court in which the setting up of military courts had been challenged should take suo moto action to provide interim relief till it gives its verdict on the petition.

"We are shocked that when the capital punishment is being eased out in other countries, Mian Nawaz Sharif is encouraging it in Pakistan. Even the sanctity of Ramazan has not been taken into consideration," he said, adding "it will set a bad precedent".

Senators Nasreen Jaleel and Aftab Shaikh and leader of the MQM parliamentary party in Sindh Assembly Dr Farooq Sattar also deplored the implementation of the death sentence by a military court.

Senator Nasreen described it a "murder of democratic norms and human rights."

They said as the petition challenging the setting up of military courts was pending in Supreme Court, no decision be executed.

If death sentences were executed and the SC gave a verdict against the military courts, who would bring back the persons executed, said Senator Shaikh.

LHRLA: The Lawyers for Human Rights and Legal Aid (LHRLA), a human rights NGO, condemning the death sentence awarded by a military court to a 14-year-old boy, has said it was against the law of the land and the international convention signed by the country.

The LHRLA said the death penalty given the military court was against the Convention of the Rights of Child as well as the Sindh Children's Act.

The LHRLA pointed out that the Article 37-A of the convention, signed by Pakistan in 1992, says "no child shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Neither capital punishment nor life imprisonment without possibility of release shall be imposed for offences committed by persons below 18 years of age."

The NGO says the parents of the boy, Mohammad Ali, had informed the LHRLA that none of their witnesses were called. Even the owner of the carpet factory where the boy used to work was not called as the carpet factory owner maintains that the boy was present in the factory at the time of the incident.

The NGO has urged all the organisations working for human rights, particularly for the rights of the child, to protest against the sentence.

Navy prepared to defend sea frontiers

KARACHI, Dec 31: Admiral Fasih Bokhari, Chief of the Naval Staff, has said the preparedness of the fleet is indeed the true reflection of the navy's overall readiness for defending the sea frontiers.

He was addressing the Pakistan Navy's annual efficiency parade held at PN Dockyard on Thursday, said an ISPR press release.

"Modern technological advancement has transformed naval warfare into a complex science. In spite of resource constraints and some inherent handicaps, we are striving hard to keep pace with the rapidly developing naval weaponry and sensor system," he added.

The Chief of the Naval Staff further said geopolitically the country was passing through difficult and challenging time.

The recent developments have added to an already complicated regional scenario. The naval threat is constantly being enhanced by our adversary's plans for procurement and induction of sophisticated platforms and weapons and weapons system.

Reviewing the ongoing projects, Admiral Bokhari stated that the progress of the under-construction, Agosta Submarine, was satisfactory. —APP

Probe into firing in SHC

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI, Dec 31: An inquiry has been launched into the firing incident at the chamber of Sindh High Court judge Justice Nazimuddin.

According to police, a bullet was fired from the gun of a security guard in the court building accidentally which hit the wall of the chamber of the high court judge on Wednesday evening.

Meanwhile, IG police Rana Maqbool Ahmed visited the residence of an 11-year-old girl who was raped by two culprits recently.

The Sindh police chief assured the girl and her family that the criminals involved in that case would be arrested soon.

MTC hears carjacking case

Accused say they have been implicated

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI, Dec 31: One of the accused in the case of seizing a car at gunpoint, testifying in the military court No. 7 on Thursday, said the police kept on beating them saying they were bandits.

The accused, from a village in Shahdad Kot, in district Larkana, said he had come to Karachi by a bus.

Arif and the other accused, Abdullah, son of Mohammad, resident of village Kachi Phal, Balochistan, disowned the third accused and said they had nothing to with him.

The car, Honda Civic (U-2613), had been seized from Faisal Baig, son of Iqbal Baig, on Nov 3 in Block-2 of Gulshan-i-Iqbal.

The accused are also charged with being in possession of illegal weapons and firing at a mobile police party. Arif denied the allegation of robbery or banditry.

Answering a question, he said he had been arrested on Nov 1 when he was visiting his uncle, Ali Gohar, who lived with his brother.

He said the police tortured him by saying that he was involved in some criminal case.

Accused No. 2 Abdullah, son of Mohammad, resident of village Kachi Phal, Balochistan, said he had been arrested on Nov 1. He added he and Arif had gone to their uncle, Ali Gohar, who was sick.

He said as they reached near Riaz Autos, they met Sona Khan, a relative of theirs, and when they were conversing about the illness of Ali Gohar, the police arrested both of them and locked them at Gulshan-i-Iqbal police station.

The witness said the two were booked under Section 13 (d) of the Arms Ordinance, about which they were told by a lawyer, when produced before a court on Nov 4 for remand. He said the charges were, however, never disclosed to them by the police.

When both the accused were in jail, they were informed about the death of Ali Gohar. Abdullah denied snatching a car and disowned any connections with Manzoor, the third accused, whom they met after three days of their arrest.

The third accused, Manzoor Hussain, son of Abdul Karim, resident of mohallah Gul Sher, taluka Kandhkot, district Jacobabad, in his testimony also denied having ever seen the other two accused, leave alone their involvement in a crime jointly.

Manzoor said he also had been arrested on Nov 1. He said he left his home town on Nov 1 and arrived early morning of Nov 2 and had nothing in his possession except Rs1,235 which were seized by the Gulshan-i-Iqbal police and he wanted the money back, excluding about Rs4,000 for his freedom.

When he said neither he could give them the money he had with him nor any more, he was booked in a serious case.

He told the military court that Rs1,235 which the police robbed him of had not been returned to him so far.

The accused said he had been arrested at the NIPA roundabout after reaching Karachi.

He said before coming to Karachi for a job, promised to him by an acquaintance, who had given his name as Azizullah, whose address, written on a piece of paper, had also been seized by the police.

He said he told the remanding magistrate about his maltreatment at the hands of the police and the court took no notice.

The accused denied all charges of snatching a car at gunpoint and his involvement in any police encounter.

Another witness was Sona, son of Khan Mohammad of Larkana, now residing in Gulshan-i-Iqbal.

The old man said his two nephews came to see him early in the morning and it was when they were arrested in his presence and taken away in a police van.

The court concluded all the evidence and the counsel have been directed to submit their written arguments.

Widow willing to pardon husband's killers

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI, Dec 31: The military court No. 3, presided over by Lt-Col Mazhar Jamil, was informed by Mohammad Asif Ranta, the younger brother of a murder victim, that his sister-in-law, wife of Mohammad Ilyas Ranta, is ready to pardon the accused if he was convicted.

The president of the court said the matter would be looked into.

The three-member court examined the Honda motorcycle inside the court which the accused, Shahzad Ahmed, son of Pervaiz Ahmed, resident of B-124, Block-S of North Nazimabad, and co-accused absconder Ramzan, son of Pehlwan, resident of Nusrat Bhutto Colony, North Nazimabad, had seized from its late owner and in the process they also murdered him on Jan 3. Ramzan is absconding and Shahzad is on trial.

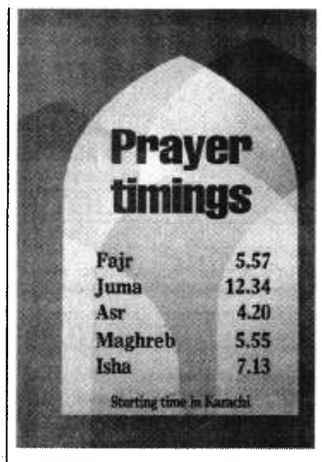
Mohammad Asif Ranta identified the motorcycle which his brother had bought last year.

He said that it was the only 70cc motorcycle in the custody of the police station and all the others were of different makes.

He received a phone call from a police sub-inspector after the incident of murder to inform him that the accused had been arrested and that the motorcycle had also been recovered.

He went to the police station to identify the motorcycle.

The court adjourned the hearing till Friday to continue his evidence.



Foundation to be self-sufficient in five years: Edhi

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI, Dec 31: Noted social worker Abdul Sattar Edhi said on Thursday that after five years his foundation would not collect or receive any donation.

Speaking to *Dawn*, Mr Edhi, who returned home around a fortnight ago after his over three-month's stay abroad, said that the social work by his foundation had become well entrenched not only in the country but in 34 other centres in other countries.

He said the foundation had plans to meet its expenses through its own resources and by the year 2004 they would be in a position to continue their work without collecting donations.

Mr Edhi said during 1999 there were plans to strengthen the existing 300 centres in the country by improving their functioning.

During next year, Mr Edhi said, there were plans that the 450-vehicle fleet of ambulances was also manned through radar system to improve its efficiency.

He said the headquarters of the Edhi foundation "shall remain in Karachi" and the work being carried out by the foundation in various parts of the world would be administered from here.

Mr Edhi said he had not sought or applied for citizenship in any other country, saying "in the US and in the UK I have acquired work permits to continue my social work there".

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